

AC 4664

41/10/8

PERTH AND KINROSS COUNTY COUNCIL.

COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

R E P O R T   on

the

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

for the year ending 31st July, 1954.

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## INTRODUCTION.

The general arrangements for the School Health Service in the area remained unchanged during the year, but following detailed consideration of the recommendations contained in last year's Report, improvements on a long term basis were approved by the County Council and these are referred to below. As anticipated the addition of B.C.G. vaccination to our programme put a considerable strain on staff resources, but it proved possible to complete the full programme.

This Report follows the usual pattern laid down by the Department of Health and of necessity includes a good deal of statistical matter. In general the figures are similar to those of previous years.

An Orthoptist was appointed during the year by the Regional Hospital Board, who also provided the necessary equipment. This valuable addition to the School Eye Service now provides an adequate standard of care for the relatively large number of children suffering from squint.

In last year's Report it was explained that without audiometry it is difficult to obtain a satisfactory picture of the real incidence of hearing defects and that the figures shown were regarded as understatements of the true position. Suitable instruments are now available and it is hoped to report separately on this question shortly.

At the end of the session it was found possible to appoint a Speech Therapist to take up duty at the beginning of the new session. This is another much needed service.

The figures show an increase in the work of the Orthopaedic Department provided by the Regional Hospital Board within the framework of the School Health Service, but, like the School Eye Service, also catering for the needs of pre-school children as well. Under these arrangements, a fully comprehensive and integrated service is provided for all children suffering from any degree of physical handicap.

Unfortunately there is no progress to report on the provision of proper facilities for mentally handicapped children in the area. In previous Reports it has been stressed that "not only is there an obligation on the County Council to provide special education for these children, but apart from any other consideration, it is economically unsound not to provide for them, since the aim should be to fit these children to take a useful and satisfying place in the community, and in the majority of cases to make them self-supporting for the future."

The lack of facilities, however, has serious repercussions in other directions. The presence of mentally handicapped children in ordinary schools adds materially to the difficulties of teachers already burdened with overlarge classes, and if anything like the necessary time is given to these children, then it can only be given at the expense of the rest of the class. Of no less importance is the effect on the family. There are many homes where the presence of a mentally handicapped child who is not receiving the education he needs is having an adverse effect on the whole family relationship. Mental Health is one of the biggest problems facing Local Health Authorities today, and there can be no doubt that proper facilities for the education of educable mentally handicapped children will go a long way towards providing a basis for the solution of this problem.

The need is for a residential special school for this area, situated sufficiently near Perth to make it possible to provide for City children on a day basis. The Scottish Education Department has indicated that it is not possible meantime to give approval for new buildings, but that the conversion of an existing building will receive favourable consideration. There are very few suitable houses in the area, and, so far as known, none of these is likely to become available in the near future.

The School Dental Service is now back to its pre-National Health Service complement of four dental officers, half the number considered necessary to provide the minimum standard of adequate service. The appointment, however, of an additional dental officer has been approved as part of a long term policy of improvements in the School Health Service.

During the year the County Council gave detailed consideration to the facilities/

facilities available for the School Health Service, and agreed to considerable improvements. It was agreed to provide a medical suite in all new schools of over 250 places, and to proceed with the suite originally planned for Perth High School, which will include a fully equipped dental surgery. It was also agreed that in the general scheme of improvements affecting all schools where no separate suite is available, staffrooms should be altered and equipped for medical and dental needs. Some further improvements in the dental facilities, including the provision of an additional mobile dental unit, are detailed in the dental section of the report. The implementation of all these decisions will take some time, but they will further considerably the work of the School Health Service which has in the past been handicapped, particularly in the smaller schools, by lack of adequate accommodation.

For convenience a summary of the figures for B.C.G. vaccinations carried out during the session, and already reported on, is attached to this Report as an Appendix.

Once again it is a pleasure to acknowledge the assistance and encouragement which the School Health Service has received from headmasters, teachers and medical practitioners throughout the area, and I would also like to express my personal appreciation of the way in which the staffs of my own Department and of the City Health Department have responded to the demands I have had to make on them.

JAMES KELMAN,  
M.D., D.P.H.  
County Medical Officer.

County Health Department,  
PERTH.      NOVEMBER, 1954.



# 1. LIST OF STAFF.

Chief School Medical Officer: James Kelman, M.D., D.P.H.

Medical Officer - Perth City Schools: John M. Aitken, M.B. Ch.B., D.P.H.

Assistant School Medical Officers:

James A. Sellar, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (Retired 15/1/54)  
 John B. Jack, M.B. Ch.B. (Appointed 18/1/54)  
 Elizabeth T. MacDougall, M.B. Ch.B.  
 Sheila M. Ore, M.B. Ch.B., D.P.H.

Senior Dental Surgeon:

Mr. M. Kirkland, L.D.S., S.D.O. (Appointed 1/9/53)

Assistant Dental Officers:

Mrs. M. Black, L.D.S.  
 Miss C.J. Brunton, L.D.S.  
 Miss E. Mann, L.D.S.

School Nurses:

Full time: Isobel Wake (Perth City)  
 Part time: 48 County District Nurses  
 7 City Health Visitors.

Physiotherapists:

Miss A.C. Hampton (Senior)  
 Miss M. Hearnshaw  
 Mr. William T. Murray

Orthoptist:

Miss F. Eileen Jack (Appointed 2/11/53)

Orthopaedic Almoner:

Miss M. Hearnshaw (Part time)

Clinical Assistants:

Medical	-	Isabella S. Gallie	
Dental	-	Freda M. Clark	
		Isabella Nicoll	
		Irene Duncan	(Resigned 6/11/53)
		Elizabeth Mackie	
		Vera Todd	(Appointed 2/11/53)

## 2. GENERAL STATISTICS.

Population of the area 134,778

Number of Schools:

(a) Nursery	)	1
Nursery classes in	) under	
ordinary schools	) Education	1
(b) Primary	) Authority	128
(c) Senior Secondary	)	5
(d) Junior Secondary	)	18
(e) (1) Special Schools		-
(2) Special Classes in ordinary schools		1
(f) In receipt of grant from Education		
Authority and under Medical Inspection		2

Average number of children on the roll 19,559  
 Number in average attendance during year 18,171

### 3. SANITARY CONDITIONS OF SCHOOLS.

The Department of Health advise that this subject be dealt with by a series of systematic surveys extending over a period of years. This year the schools in Perth District are due for review.

These are as follows:- Arngask, Forgandenny, Abernethy, Forteviot, Craigend, Aberdalgie, Findo Gask, Path of Condie, Rhynd, Dunbarney, Invergowrie, Longforgan, Inchtute, Abernethy, Kinnauld, Errol Senior and Junior, Glendoick, Kilspindie, St. Madoes, Kinfauns, Kinclaven, Auchtergaven, Kinglands, Moneydie, Redgorton, Methven, Ruthvenfield, Balgowan, Pitcairn, Tibbermore, Logiealmond, Buchanty, Stanley and Scone.

Of the above schools only Forteviot, Auchtergaven, Pitcairn and Scone are of modern construction. The others are of various ages, solidly built, but with the planning defects which the modern view regards as inherent in their layout. In general they have been well maintained. The last review was carried out in 1948, and since then practically all the wartime arrears of improvements have been completed.

1. Overcrowding. Most schools are working to full capacity, but none can be said to be overcrowded.

2. Condition of Buildings. In general, conditions are satisfactory. Some internal redecoration is required at Forgandenny (Infants), Forteviot, Invergowrie, Kinnauld, Errol (J.S. and Infants), Tibbermore and Scone. Classroom floors are requiring attention at Arngask, Abernethy, Craigend, Path of Condie, Errol (J.S. and Infants), Kinfauns, Moneydie and Balgowan.

3. Playgrounds and Playing Fields. Practically all schools now have surfaces covered with tarmac, either in whole or part. Repairs to tarmac are required at Forgandenny and Forteviot. Errol Infants School has an unsatisfactory playground surface. All the Junior Secondary Schools, and all but a few of the smaller primary schools now have playing fields.

4. Shelter Sheds. These are satisfactory, except that at Craigend the shelter shed faces into the prevailing wind and is apt to be wet in bad weather.

5. Water Supply. This is satisfactory at most schools. At Kilspindie there is no water inside the school. The supply occasionally is short at Kinglands, Moneydie and Buchanty. At Findo Gask the well supply is not too satisfactory.

6. Washhand Basins. At Arngask the basins are old fashioned. There is only one basin now at Craigend. At Aberdalgie there is only the sink which is also used for the school meals service. At Stanley and Errol (Infants) the number of basins is insufficient. In the majority of schools only cold water is available. With school meals provided on the premises, children should be instructed to wash their hands before meals, and for this a supply of hot water is essential.

7. Toilet facilities. Following the comprehensive scheme of improvements carried out during the last few years, all schools now have flush toilets, and in general these are sufficient in numbers. At Scone some additional w.c.s. are required, and the provision at Moneydie is hardly sufficient. At Aberdalgie and Longforgan the toilets should be considered for modernisation. Some of the urinals are requiring attention, particularly at Scone and Pitcairn, where they are cracked and smelly in summer. Toilet paper is supplied at all schools.

8. Ventilation and Lighting. Ventilation is satisfactory in all schools. Practically all schools now have electric lighting. With the cutting of trees, the natural lighting at Findo Gask is now satisfactory.

9. Heating. The majority of schools now have central heating. Ruthvenfield has electric heating. Open fires or stoves are provided in the smaller schools and in general heating is satisfactory.

10. Facilities for drying Clothes. At all schools where central heating is available, hot pipes are provided for drying clothes. The smaller schools use the open fires.

11. Cloakrooms. On the whole the arrangements are satisfactory. At many schools the pogs are numbered.

12. Cleansing. The schools generally are kept in excellent condition.

13. School Furniture. In a few schools, old fashioned desks are still in use, but these are gradually being replaced.

14. Improvements. In the Report for last year, details were given of the recent improvements carried out in Perth City Schools. This Report now brings the position up to date for all schools, and covers the last two years when the general scheme of improvements was maintained well up to schedule.

Playground surfacing has been carried out at St. Ninian's, Clunie, Meigle, Kincardine, Balgowan, Redgorton, Blair Atholl, Dunkeld, Gartmore, Meikleour, Blackwater, Grandtully, Ardeonaig, Aberfoyle and Milnathort Senior, and the surface has been improved at Invervar; new water supplies have been provided at Tibbermore and Stormontfield; new wash basins at Deanston; new conveniences at Glendoick, Kinlochard, Glenlyon, Drimmie, St. Dominic's R.C., St. Madoes, Auchterarder, Trinity Gask, Aberuthven and Kinross; new urinal at Blair Atholl; new flooring at Kinclaven and Blairgowrie (gymnasium); improved staffrooms at Acharn, Perth Junior Academy, Ardler, Balbeggie, Kinloch Rannoch and Dunblane; new playing fields at Kinross, Auchterarder and Alyth; installation of electricity at Fowlis Wester, St. Mary's, Aberdalgie, Strone of Cally, Fearnan, Lykehead and Blairingone, with additional electric heating at Kirkmichael; and at many schools additional fire fighting equipment has been provided. Considerable improvements have been carried out at Ellengowan and Teithside Hostels.

There are major schemes in progress at Alyth, Methven, Kinross, Perth High and Scone, and the programme at Lawers School of Agriculture is now nearing completion.

#### 4. ORGANISATION AND ADMINISTRATION.

##### A. System and extent of medical inspection and treatment.

The general arrangements were detailed in the Report for year ending 31/7/47, and no change occurred during the present year.

The groups of children examined systematically during 1953-54 were (1) the entrants, and (2) children born in the years 1944, 1940 and 1937. Details are shown in the statistical tables.

##### B. System and extent of dental inspection and treatment.

The general arrangements were unchanged during the session under review. A staff of four Dental Officers is now available. Details of the work done are given later in this Report.

##### C. School Nursing and arrangements for following-up.

##### D. Co-ordination.

##### E. Co-operation with voluntary bodies etc.

No change has occurred under these heads.

##### F. Co-operation with teachers and parents.

The teaching staff have again been most helpful in referring cases to the School Medical Officers, and in co-operating to ensure the attendance of children for specialist advice and treatment. The attendance of parents at inspections was much the same as in previous years. Three talks were given to Parent-Teacher Associations during the year.



## 5. FINDINGS OF MEDICAL INSPECTION.

The number of children examined systematically was 5775, as against 6081 for the previous year. In addition, the Medical Officers examined in the schools 1017 special cases and made 3254 re-examinations. The number of children examined for vision only at age seven was 1689, and the number of children in employment examined was 331.

Except where otherwise stated, the figures in the following sections refer to the 5775 children examined systematically.

### 1. Clothing.

Number of children examined systematically	5775	
Number with unsatisfactory clothing	3	(0.052%)
	<u>Perth City</u>	<u>Perth County</u>
Number of children examined by the nurses	23,665	50,387
Number with unsatisfactory clothing	349 (1.49)	54 (0.1)

The nurses' inspections are made without previous warning and refer more closely to the poorer groups. The figures for the previous two years for nurses' inspections for Perth City were 1952-53 - 1.74, 1951-52 - 1.31; for the County for 1952-53 the figure was 0.2%.

### 2. Footwear. Only 3 (0.052) children were found with unsatisfactory footwear.

3. Cleanliness. The findings at the routine school medical inspections are not a very reliable index of cleanliness since the children may have been cleaned up for the occasion.

(a) heads - dirty, nits or vermin	70 (1.21%)
(b) bodies - Dirty, or verminous	Nil

The corresponding figures for last year were (1.6%) and (0.01%) respectively.

The nurses' cleanliness inspections give a more reliable index, since no warning is given of visits. In 23665 examinations in Perth City Schools, 84 children were found to have verminous heads on one or more occasions, as against 48 for 1952-53, 66 for 1951-52 and 78 for 1950-51.

In 50387 County examinations, 49 children were found to have verminous heads. The previous figures for the County are: out of 48,590 examinations in 1952-53, 34 children were found to have verminous heads.

The procedure laid down in the Education (Scotland) Act, 1946, was found to work satisfactorily. 14 formal notices were issued to parents requiring them to cleanse a total of 17 children.

### 4. Skin. Very few skin conditions were found.

(a) Heads:	Ringworm	1 (0.017%)
	Impetigo	3 (0.052%)
	Others	12 (0.21%)
(b) Body:	Ringworm	1 (0.017%)
	Impetigo	1 (0.017%)
	Scabies	2 (0.035%)
	Others	27 (0.47%)

5. Nutrition. The general level of nutrition has been well maintained. Of the 5775 children examined, in 109 (1.90%) the state of nutrition was regarded as slightly defective, and in 7 (0.122%) it was regarded as badly defective.

6. Mouth and Teeth. Only 54 (0.94%) of the 5775 children examined at routine inspections were considered by the medical officers to have unhealthy mouths, but these figures must be regarded as somewhat conservative when compared with the findings from the detailed examinations by the dental officers.



7. Naso-Pharynx. Most of the defects found again consisted of unhealthy tonsils and adenoids.

23 cases (0.40%) were found to have slight nasal obstruction, 36 (0.62%) had a degree of obstruction requiring operative treatment and 6 (0.01%) had other nasal conditions.

In 133 cases (2.30%) the tonsils were enlarged but not unhealthy. In 138 cases (2.39%) it was considered that removal of the tonsils and/or adenoids was necessary.

In 45 cases (0.77%) there was glandular enlargement requiring observation.

8. Eyes. The usual external diseases of the eyes, blepharitis and conjunctivitis are much less common nowadays. The few cases found were treated, either at the School Clinic or by the District Nurses. Strabismus (squint) remains a relatively common defect in this area. Cases of squint and defective eyesight are referred to the Eye Specialist.

Of the 5775 children examined, 13 (0.23%) were found to have blepharitis and only 6 (0.10%) conjunctivitis. 70 (1.21%) were found to have strabismus of varying degrees. 10 (0.17%) were found to be suffering from other eye defects.

Only 8 (0.14%) were found to have defective vision, but of the 1689 children examined for vision at age seven, 84 (4.97%) were found to have defective eyesight and were referred to the Eye Specialist. Of these 71 had fair vision and 13 had bad vision.

9. Ears. 14 children (0.24%) were found at routine inspection to be suffering from otorrhoea and 3 (0.052%) suffered from other diseases of the ear.

10 cases of defective hearing were found at routine inspection. 4 of these cases were classified as Grade I (capable of education in an ordinary classroom), 3 as Grade II(a), 2 as Grade II(b) (requiring special education but not of the type required for those whose speech and language are seriously affected) and 1 as Grade III (so deaf that speech and language are seriously defective and requiring education as for deaf and dumb children).

10. Speech. 8 children (0.138%) were found to have defective articulation, and 3 (0.052%) were found to suffer from stammering. No special treatment facilities are available for these cases, but a speech therapist has been appointed to take up duty next session.

11. Mental and nervous conditions. The cases referred to below are those included in the groups examined systematically during the session, generally having previously been brought to notice by the class teachers or at previous inspections.

(a) Backward	3 (0.052%)
(b) Dull	17 (0.29%)
(c) Mentally defective (educable)	2 (0.035%)
(d) Mentally defective (ineducable)	5 (0.087%)
(e) Highly nervous or unstable	2 (0.035%)
(f) Difficult in behaviour	1 (0.017%)

12. Circulatory System. 17 children were found at routine inspection to have organic heart diseases. Of these 10 (0.17%) were congenital and 7 (0.12%) acquired. 10 (0.17%) were found to have functional heart conditions.

13. Lungs. 14 children (0.24%) were found to have chronic bronchitis and 4 (0.07%) suspected tuberculosis and 24 (0.41%) had other chest conditions including asthma.

14. Deformities. All children with any degree of crippling, deformity or postural defect were referred to the Orthopaedic Surgeon for appropriate treatment. The commonest conditions found were flat feet, knock knees and postural defects, and these are included in the "other causes" below.

(a)/

(a) congenital deformities	41 (0.7%)
(b) acquired (infantile paralysis)	2 (0.035%)
(c) acquired (probably rickets)	4 (0.069%)
(d) acquired (other causes)	35 (0.41%)

15. Infectious disease. It is very unusual to find any of these cases at systematic inspections, 3 (0.052%).

16. Other diseases and defects. Nothing unusual was found under this heading. The total found was 52 (0.90%).

17. Vaccination. 79.22% of all children examined were found to have been vaccinated. The percentage varied slightly between the age groups - entrants 76.52%, 1944 group 82.25%, 1940 group 78.84% and 1937 group 80.31%.

18. Heights and Weights. The table below gives the average heights and weights found.

Year 1953-54.

<u>Group</u>	<u>Number Examined</u>	<u>Age</u>		<u>Average</u>	
		<u>years</u>	<u>months</u>	<u>Height (Inches)</u>	<u>Weight (lbs.)</u>
Entrants	B 1074	5	4	42.4	43.7
	G 1021	5	2	42.9	41.9
Nines (1944)	B 913	9	6	52.5	65.9
	G 822	9	6	52.3	64.8
Thirteens (1940)	B 728	13	5	60.4	96.7
	G 746	13	5	60.5	97.6
Sixteens (1937)	B 111	16	4	67.7	135.4
	G 82	16	6	64.0	124.5

6. MEDICAL TREATMENT.

A. Minor Ailments.

(1) Cuts, Bruises, Sprains and Minor Injuries. In Perth City treatment is available for those cases at the school clinic. Suspected fractures or other injuries requiring X-ray or special treatment are referred to Perth Infirmary. In the County, cases are treated by the teachers or district nurses. First Aid requisites are supplied to all schools, with special outfits for the science and practical classes, and these are replenished as required.

Details of cases treated at the Perth Clinic are as follows:-

Cases treated during the year	432
Cases ceasing to attend	cured 374
	improved 33
Cases under treatment at end of year	25

(2) Diseases of the ear. In Perth City cases are treated by the School Clinic. County cases are treated either by the District Nurses or the family doctors. Cases treated at Perth Clinic:

Cases treated during the year	42
Cases ceasing to attend	cured 25
	improved 5
Cases under treatment at end of year	9

During the session 13 Ear, Nose and Throat clinics were held at which 190 children were examined by the Specialist. 79 cases were recommended for removal of tonsils and adenoids and 7 cases for removal of adenoids, and 33 of these cases were done before the end of the session. There were 9 nasal cases, one each of spistaxis, septum deviation and nasal polypus and 6 of allergic rhinitis; there were 5 cases of otitis externa and 4 cases of otitis media. 10 cases of catarrhal deafness were successfully treated by politzerisation; one case of deafness.



deafness had radium treatment and 4 were referred to the Deafness Clinic. In 59 cases conservative treatment was advised. 3 patients were referred to Perth Royal Infirmary suffering from mastoiditis and 5 were referred for radiological investigation of sinuses; of these 2 were negative and 3 were awaiting appointment at the close of the session.

(3) Diseases of the eye, excluding defective vision. Cases usually consist of blepharitis, styes or conjunctivitis. These are treated by the Clinic or the District Nurses. 121 cases were treated at the Perth Clinic this year.

(4) Diseases of the Skin. 1 case of ringworm of the scalp occurred during the session and was successfully treated without epilation. 6 cases of scabies, 1 case of ringworm of the body, 35 cases of impetigo and 12 cases of other skin diseases were all satisfactorily dealt with.

#### B. Defective Vision and Squint.

The number of new cases examined for the first time was 461, of which 41 were children under 5 years of age. The number of children re-examined was 1608, the total number of refractions being 2059.

Simple Hypermetropia	85 (12.0%)
Simple Myopia	98 (13.84%)
Hypermetropic Astigmatism	31 (4.38%)
Myopic Astigmatism	28 (3.95%)
Compound Hypermetropic Astigmatism	232 (32.77%)
Compound Myopic Astigmatism	76 (10.73%)
Mixed Astigmatism	101 (14.27%)
Other conditions	57 (8.05%)

Spectacles were ordered in 647 cases.

Of the 461 new cases, 296 were examined at the Perth Eye Clinic, 41 at Crieff, 36 at Dunblane, 12 at Aberfeldy, 32 at Blairgowrie, 13 at Pitlochry and 31 at Kinross.

98 cases of squint were dealt with. 61 of these were put on list for operation and 37 were dealt with conservatively. These latter cases were dealt with by the orthoptist. Accommodation is provided in the Perth School Clinic, the orthoptist and the orthoptic equipment being provided by the Regional Hospital Board. This is a valuable addition to the Eye Service, since with orthoptic treatment it is possible to retain useful vision in the squinting eye, leading eventually with or without operation to restoration of binocular vision.

#### C. Nose and Throat - operative treatment.

Altogether 63 cases were done at Perth Royal Infirmary and a further 289 at Bridge of Earn Hospital, of which one and 88 respectively had been referred through the School Health Service. At the end of the session the number of cases on the School List awaiting operation had been reduced to 68.

In the Western District, 59 cases were done at Stirling Royal Infirmary, all having been referred by general practitioners.

D. Orthopaedic Treatment. The general arrangements were detailed in the 1947 report. This Regional Hospital Board service, dealing with children of all ages, is administered within the framework of the School Health Service, and is based on the Perth School Clinic.

During the session, 1840 school children were seen by the Orthopaedic Surgeon, and 57 school children were admitted to hospital (Bridge of Earn). The Physiotherapists dealt with 703 children for care and after care, giving 7167 treatments.

### 7. DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT.

Mr. M. Kirkland, L.D.S., Senior Dental Officer, has prepared the following report.



At the beginning of the year the staff consisted of three Dental Officers, but from 1/9/53 the number was again raised to four, at which figure it remained for the rest of the year.

The figures in the summary are very similar to those of previous years. There was, however, a considerable increase in the number of general anaesthetics administered and the availability of suitable apparatus is appreciated by staff and patients alike. Another feature noted during the year was a definite drop in the number of broken appointments. One satisfactory feature is the comparatively high proportion of fillings to extractions carried out in the permanent teeth,

During the session the facilities for orthodontic treatment were considerably improved by the sessions conducted by the Regional Hospital Board's consultant in orthodontics. Unfortunately later in the session, the consultant resigned and has not so far been replaced. It is hoped that something will be done soon to continue this valuable service.

The general dental condition of the children in the County is not good, and the acceptance rate of just over 55% is very poor. This is not surprising since with a staff of four dental officers the interval between visits amounts to between  $1\frac{1}{2}$  and 2 years. Previous reports have emphasised that the minimum standard of service which can be regarded as being satisfactory should provide for inspection with all necessary treatment at least once a year, for which a staff of at least eight dental officers will be required. In last year's Report it was said that "In dental care there is no half way house. Anything less than an adequate standard of care cannot provide reasonable value for the money expended. With the long interval between successive examinations, the average child is found to require extensive treatment and no real progress is being made towards securing a dentally fit school population."

During the session under review, the County Council considered the whole position, agreed to improve the facilities for dental work, accepted in principle that the dental staff should eventually be eight dental officers, and agreed to appoint one additional dentist during the present session. The agreed improvements were as follows:-

- (1) To provide an additional surgery at the Perth Dental Clinic;
- (2) To proceed with the erection at Perth High School of the Medical Suite, including a fully equipped dental surgery.
- (3) To provide an additional mobile dental unit, based on Blairgowrie, and to appoint an additional dental officer when the mobile unit becomes available.
- (4) To facilitate treatment by private dentists under the General Dental Service arrangements by allowing children to be treated during school hours, and by meeting any charges which would otherwise require to be met by the patients.

These arrangements will help considerably to improve the standard of dental care available for school children and represents a real step forward. Under these arrangements 27 children received treatment by private practitioners towards the end of the session.

In conclusion, I would like to express my thanks to the Head Teachers for their co-operation, to the Dental staff for their support, and to Dr. Kelman for his valuable assistance and advice during my first year.

Summary/

Summary of the Work done.

1. Inspected by the Dental Officers:-

Age	(A) Systematic Examinations	(B) Special and Emergency cases	TOTAL
3	-	-	-
4	5	1	6
5	653	51	704
6	835	84	919
7	765	87	852
8	709	64	773
9	639	90	729
10	620	62	682
11	721	49	770
12	482	40	522
13	252	29	281
14	72	28	100
15	8	8	16
16	-	1	1
17	-	1	1
	<u>5761</u>	<u>595</u>	<u>6365</u>

	<u>Systematic Examinations</u>	<u>Special and Emergency Cases</u>
2. Found to require treatment	4573	595
2(a). Number of Acceptances	2533	595
3. Actually treated by the School Dental Officers	3075	595
4. Number of Attendances made by Children for treatment	8747	595
5. Fillings (a) permanent teeth	6903	1
(b) temporary teeth	240	3
6. Extractions (a) permanent teeth	482	110
(b) temporary teeth	2970	365
7. Number of Administrations of General Anaesthetics for Extractions	184	2
8. Other operations (a) permanent teeth	3982	176
(b) temporary teeth	1400	38
9. Halfdays devoted to Inspections	143	-
9(a) Halfdays devoted to treatment	1527	-
10. Number of children treated under private arrangement	-	-
Number of partial dentures fitted	27	
Number of orthodontic appliances fitted	3	

8. SPECIAL SCHOOLS AND CLASSES.

(a) Physically defective children. There are no special schools or classes, but see under (f) below.

(b) Blind and partially sighted children. There are no Special Classes. During the session there were 5 children from this area in the Royal Blind Asylum and School, Edinburgh, and 3 children at the Sight Saving School, Dundee.

(c) Deaf, partially deaf and deaf mute children. There are no Special Classes. 11 children were in schools outwith the area; 4 in Donaldson's School for the Deaf, Edinburgh; 6 in the Institution for the Deaf and Dumb, Dundee;

2 in St. Vincent's School for the Deaf, Glasgow; and 1 in St. Giles School, Edinburgh, for the partially deaf.

(d) Mentally Defective Children. One class is available in Southern District School, Perth, for educable mentally defective children. During the year 7 boys and 8 girls attended this class. 10 educable mentally defective children were accommodated outwith the County; 7 in Baldovan Institution, Dundee, and 3 in Waverley Park Home, Kirkintilloch.

(e) Retarded children. As far as possible, these are placed in ordinary classes suitable for their level of intelligence.

(f) Handicapped children. 3 physically handicapped children were in Trefoil Residential School. 1 mentally handicapped child was in the Rudolph Steiner School. 2 epileptic children were in the Colony at Bridge of Weir and 2 physically handicapped children were in Castlecraig Residential School, West Linton, Peeblesshire.

#### 9. ARRANGEMENTS FOR PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND PERSONAL HYGIENE.

The Department of Health recommends that a proportion of the schools in the area should be surveyed under this heading each year. This year the Perth District schools have been selected for review.

A. Accommodation for physical exercises. The only schools which have gymnasia or halls are Auchtergaven, Scone, Methven and Pitcairn, but in the last case, this is also used as a classroom. The other schools use outside halls or in some cases a spare room, and when the weather is suitable exercises are given in the school playground.

(a) Facilities for change of shoes or clothing. Change of shoes is almost universal, but no separate facilities are provided for this, except at Scone.

(b) Spray Baths. There are none.

(c) Provision of towels, hot water etc. Towels are provided at all schools, but very few schools have hot water available.

(d) School Intervals. The usual interval is 10-15 minutes in the forenoon and 5-10 minutes in the afternoon.

B. Swimming Baths. There are none.

C. Playing Fields. See earlier in this Report.

D. School Camps. School Camps are not available for children in the schools reviewed this year, but during the summer of 1954 215 children from schools in Perth City were accommodated for a fortnight at Belmont Camp, Meigle.

E. Practical Instruction in Personal and Communal Hygiene. In all schools some instruction in hygiene is given by the class teachers. In secondary schools this is also given by teachers of physical instruction and domestic subjects, based on the Scheme drawn up by the Scottish Council for Health Education. When time permits, brief talks are given by the Medical Officers at their visits.

F. Parent-Teacher Associations. There are now parent-teacher associations at many of the schools under review, and during the session three talks were given by members of the Medical Staff.



10. OTHER ACTIVITIES IN RELATION TO THE HEALTH OF SCHOOL CHILDREN.

(a) Milk in Schools. The acceptance rate is high, and there is no doubt that the health of school children has greatly benefited. Milk is available in 147 schools and 75% of the pupils in these schools take milk. In each case, the source of the supply is approved by the Medical Officer of Health, and apart from one or two small schools in isolated areas, the milk is either T.T. or pasteurised.

(b) School Meals. School meals are now served at 147 schools, leaving only 5 unprovided for. The 26 kitchens provided 1,616,537 meals during the session. Fife cooking centre supplied 7 schools and provided 51,849 meals not included in above total.



T A B L E    I.

Total number of children examined at:-			
(A)		Systematic Examinations	Other systematic Examinations
Ordinary Schools	(Entrants	2095	
	(Second Age Group	1735	
	(Third Age Group	1474	
	(Fourth Age Group	193	
Secondary Schools	(Age Group	-	
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		5497	278
TOTAL			<hr/>
			5775
(B) Other Examinations:-			
Special cases		1017	
Re-inspections by Medical Officers		<hr/>	
		3254	
TOTAL			<hr/>
			4271
Number of individual children inspected at Systematic Examinations who were notified to parents as requiring treatment, (excluding uncleanliness and dental caries):-			
Entrants		263	
Second Age Group		112	
Third Age Group		97	
Fourth Age Group		7	
Secondary Age Group		-	
Other systematic examinations		<hr/>	
		163	
			<hr/>
			642
			<hr/>



TABLE II.

## SYSTEMATIC EXAMINATIONS.

Return of number and percentage of individual children in each age group suffering from particular defects:—

Nature of Defect	Entrants		Second Age Group		Third Age Group		Fourth Age Group		Other Ages		TOTAL
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	
1. Clothing unsatisfactory	1074	1021	913	822	728	746	111	82	164	114	5775
2. Footgear unsatisfactory	1 0.09	3 0.05		1 0.12	1 0.14						3 0.05
3. Cleanliness:											3 0.05
(a) Head: dirty, nits, vermin	1 0.9	27 2.65	4 0.44	19 2.31		19 2.55					70 1.21
(b) Body: Dirty or verminous											
4. Skin (a) head:											
Ringworm		1 0.10									1 0.02
Impetigo	2 0.19		1 0.11								3 0.05
Other Diseases	2 0.19	5 0.5	2 0.22	2 0.24		1 0.13					12 0.21
(b) Body:											
Ringworm	1 0.09	1 0.10									1 0.02
Impetigo	1 0.09										1 0.02
Scabies	12 1.12	3 0.29	1 0.11	1 0.12	2 0.27	3 0.39		2 2.44	3 1.83		2 0.04
Other Diseases											27 0.47
5. Nutritional State:											
Slightly defective	48 4.47	14 1.37	14 1.53	10 1.22	18 3.69	1 0.13	1 0.90		3 1.83	1 0.87	109 1.90
Bad	1 0.09	2 0.20		1 0.12		1 0.13			1 0.61		7 0.12
6. Mouth and teeth unhealthy	13 1.21	12 1.18	12 1.31	9 1.09		5 0.65			2 1.22	1 0.87	54 0.94
7. Naso-Pharynx (a) Nose											
(1) Obstr. req. observation	7 0.65	6 0.59	5 0.55	2 0.24	1 0.14	1 0.13	1 0.90				23 0.40
(2) Obstr. req. oper. treat.	12 1.12	14 1.37	4 0.44	4 0.49	2 0.27		1 0.90		2 1.74		36 0.62
(3) Other conditions	3 0.28										6 0.10
(b) Throat											
(1) Tonsils req. observation	50 4.66	39 3.82	17 1.86	14 1.70	3 0.40	3 0.39	1 0.90			6 5.22	133 2.30
(2) Tonsils req. oper. tr.	54 5.03	35 3.43	15 1.64	15 1.83	1 0.14	11 1.43		1 1.22	3 1.83	3 2.61	138 2.30
(c) Glands (1) Req. obs.	19 1.77	13 1.27	11 1.20	1 0.12	1 0.14						45 0.77
(2) Req. operative treatment			2 0.22								2 0.07
8. Eyes (a) External diseases											
Blepharitis	1 0.09	1 0.10	8 0.88			3 0.39				1 0.87	13 0.23
Conjunctivitis	2 0.19	1 0.10	2 0.22							2 1.74	6 0.10
Strabismus	17 1.58	28 2.75	8 0.88	5 0.61	3 0.41	3 0.39			4 2.44		70 1.21
Other diseases	2 0.19	3 0.29	2 0.22	1 0.12	2 0.27						10 0.17
(b) Visual acuity: Fair vision			20 2.19	20 2.43	33 4.10	73 9.79	5 4.50	2 2.44	4 2.44	2 1.74	159 2.75
Bad vision	1 0.09		6 0.66	3 0.37	5 0.69	6 0.78	1 0.90	2 2.44	1 0.61	1 0.87	26 0.44
Recommended for Refraction	4 0.37	3 0.29	2 0.22		1 0.14				3 1.83	2 1.74	15 0.26

TABLE II (CONT'D)

Nature of Defect	Entrants		Second Age Group		Third Age Group		Fourth Age Group		Other Ages		TOTAL
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	
9. Ears (a) Diseases Otorrhoea Other diseases (b) Defective hearing: Grade I Grade IIa Grade IIb Grade III	2 0.19	3 0.29	1 0.11	2 0.24		2 0.27	1 0.90		5 3.05 1 0.61		14 0.24 3 0.05
10. Speech: Def. articulation Stammering	1 0.09		1 0.11	1 0.12 2 0.24 2 0.24	1 0.14	1 0.13					4 0.07 3 0.05 2 0.04 1 0.02
11. Mental and nervous conditions (a) Backward (b) Dull (c) Men. Def. (educable) (d) Men. Def. (ineducable) (e) Highly nervous or unstable (f) Difficult in behaviour	3 0.28		2 0.22 1 0.11		1 0.14 1 0.14				2 1.22	1 0.87	8 0.14 3 0.05
12. Circulatory System (a) Organic heart disease (1) Congenital (2) Acquired (b) Func. cond.	1 0.09 2 0.19		4 0.44		2 0.27 7 0.96	2 0.27			2 1.22 1 0.61		3 0.05 17 0.29 2 0.04 5 0.09
13. Lungs: Chr. Bron Sus. Tuberculosis Other diseases	1 0.09 1 0.09			1 0.12 2 0.24 1 0.14	2 0.27						2 0.04 1 0.02
14. Deformities (a) Congenital (b) Acquired (inf. para.) (c) do. (pro. rickets) (d) do. (oth. causes)	2 0.19 3 0.28 3 0.28 3 0.28	4 0.39 3 0.29 1 0.10	2 0.22 1 0.11	1 0.12 1 0.12 1 0.12	1 0.14 2 0.27 2 0.27	1 0.13		1 1.22	1 0.61		10 0.17 7 0.12 10 0.17 14 0.24 4 0.07 24 0.41
15. Inf. Diseases (a) Congenital (b) Acquired (inf. para.) (c) do. (pro. rickets) (d) do. (oth. causes)	4 0.37 1 0.09	5 0.49	4 0.44	1 0.12 1 0.12	5 0.69	2 0.27	2 1.80		1 0.61		
16. Oth. dis. or defects	13 1.21 1 0.09	8 0.78 1 0.10	6 0.66	3 0.36	5 0.69	5 0.65	1 0.90				41 0.70 2 0.04 4 0.57 35 0.61 3 0.05
17. Vaccination	4 0.37 1 0.09	4 0.39 1 0.10	1 0.11 4 0.44 1 0.11	1 0.12 11 1.34	1 0.14 1 0.14	1 0.13 10 1.30				1 0.87	5 4.35 85 74.4 28 24.56 96 83.8
18. Parents present	14 1.3 825 76.82	6 0.59 778 76.21	5 0.55 764 83.72	5 0.6 661 80.38	6 0.82 570 78.3	4 0.54 592 79.4	4 3.60 91 82.4		3 1.83 128 78.3		52 0.90 4556 79.22 1641 28.42
19. Diphtheria Immunisation	653 60.8 950 88.45	634 62.16 806 79.02	141 15.44 807 88.42	143 17.40 723 87.92	7 0.96 673 92.4	12 1.62 681 90.0	1 0.90 103 92.8		122 13.41 139 84.9		5053 87.5

TABLE III.

## SYSTEMATIC MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS.

[illegible]



TABLE IV.

## RETURN OF ALL EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN OF SCHOOL AGE IN THE AREA.

	At Ord- inary Schools	At Spec. Schs. or Classes	At no Sch. or Instit- ution	TOTAL
1. Blind	-	4	-	4
2. Partially sighted:- (a) Refractive errors in which the curriculum of an ordinary school would adversely affect the eye condition	-	1	-	1
(b) Other conditions of the eye e.g. cataract, ulceration etc., which render the child unable to read ordinary school books or to see well enough to be taught in an ord. sch.	-	9	-	9
3. Deaf. Grade I ... ..	11	-	-	11
Grade IIa ... ..	10	-	-	10
Grade IIb ... ..	1	1	-	2
Grade III ... ..	6	9	-	15
4. Defective Speech: (a) Defects of articulation requiring special educational measures	15	-	-	15
(b) Stammering, requiring special educational measures	7	-	-	7
5. Mentally defective (children between 5 and 16 years) * (a) Educable (I.Q. app. 50-70)	67	22	12	101
(b) Ineducable (I.Q. generally less than 50)	11	25	34	70
6. Epilepsy: (a) Mild and occasional	10	-	-	10
(b) Suitable for care in a residential school (severe)	3	-	-	3
7. Physically defective (children between 5 and 16 years) (a) non-pulmonary tuberculosis (excluding cervical glands)	24	4	-	28
(b) general orthopaedic conditions	653	10	3	666
(c) organic heart disease	43	-	1	44
(d) other causes of ill-health	17	1	1	19
8. Multiple defects				
1. 2(a) and 6(b)	-	1	-	1
2. 4(b) and 7(b)	1	-	-	1
* 3. 5(a) and 2(a)	-	-	1	1
* 4. 5(a) and 3(I)	2	-	-	2
* 5. 5(a) and 3(IIa)	1	-	-	1
* 6. 5(a) and 6(a)	1	-	-	1
* 7. 5(a) and 6(b)	1	-	-	1
* 8. 5(a) and 7(b)	2	-	2	4
* 9. 5(a) and 7(c)	1	-	-	1
* 10. 5(a) and 7(d)	4	-	-	4
11. 5(b) and 1	-	1	3	4
12. 5(b) and 2(b) and 7(a)	-	1	-	1
13. 5(b) and 2(b) and 7(c)	-	-	2	2
14. 5(b) and 3(IIa)	1	-	-	1
15. 5(a) and 4(b)	1	-	-	1
16. 5(b) and 6(b)	-	1	2	3
17. 5(b) and 6(b) and 7(b)	-	-	1	1
18. 5(b) and 7(b)	2	1	-	3
19. 5(b) and 7(c)	-	-	2	2
20. 5(b) and 7(d)	-	-	1	1

\* Mentally defective - 5(a) - 19 of these 116 have left school although still aged 5 - 16.

## APPENDIX.

## TUBERCULIN TESTING AND B.C.G. VACCINATION.

Session 1953-54.

School	% Consent	Boys		Girls		Boys & Girls		No. vaccinated
		No. Tested	% positive	No. Tested	% positive	No. Tested	% positive	
<u>Perth City</u>								
Perth Academy	82	188	45	200	46	388	46	211
Perth High	88	234	33	241	36	475	35	311
St. John's	90	21	29	16	56	37	41	22
Totals	86	443	38	457	41	900	40	544
<u>Perth District</u>								
Errol	91	25	12	14	29	39	18	32
Invergowrie	96	10	-	12	42	22	23	16
Scone	70	13	31	19	53	32	44	17
Stanley	100	23	44	26	23	49	33	32
Methven	93	13	15	23	17	36	17	29
Dunbarney	74	18	22	11	27	29	24	20
Totals	86	102	23	105	31	207	27	146
<u>Eastern District</u>								
Blairgowrie	65	67	31	79	42	146	37	91
Alyth	93	21	38	25	64	46	52	22
Coupar Angus	68	10	50	6	67	16	56	10
Totals	70	98	35	110	48	208	42	123
<u>Highland District</u>								
Breadalbane Academy	86	50	52	64	45	114	40	57
Dunkeld-Birnam	90	10	10	13	23	23	17	17
Pitlochry	77	23	43	19	37	42	41	25
Totals	84	83	40	96	41	179	43	99
<u>Central District</u>								
Crieff J.S.	96	30	47	21	33	51	41	30
Morrison's Academy	92	103	44	95	40	198	42	110
Lawers Agri. School	89	22	27	4	-	26	23	20
Comrie	93	6	67	6	33	12	50	6
Auchterarder	100	28	21	29	33	57	28	38
Totals	94	189	40	155	37	344	38	204
<u>Western District</u>								
Dunblane	100	23	26	11	36	34	29	24
McLaren High	66	48	37	58	38	106	37	59
Aberfoyle	95	8	50	9	22	17	35	11
Killin	100	-	-	2	100	2	100	-
Totals	74	79	34	80	38	159	37	94
Kinross	100	21	48	36	44	57	46	29
COUNTY TOTALS	82	572	36	582	39	1154	38	695
CITY & COUNTY TOTALS	84	1015	37	1039	40	2054	39	1239